The Need for Consultation

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Annotated Bibliography/Summary

Because there is such a high drop out rate in high school today, researchers have had not choice but to research the behavior problems. It is being said that poor peer relations are effecting teenagers so much that it creates a risk for behavior disorders, juvenile delinquency and dropping out of school. Therefore Maag (1994) proved an importance of kids receiving social skill training. Because of the counselor having too many jobs and responsibilities, it would be impossible for the counselor to train every child. Nevertheless, Maag (1994) proved the importance of the counselor training the teachers and the teachers train the students. Maag (1994) als said that convincing teachers to understand the importance of this will not only benefit the student but the teacher also.

The topic of communications that Maag (1994) touched on was academic and social behavior. This explains to the teacher that the control method in the classroom is not always the best method. The reason for this is that the child does not get the attention until the misbehaving occurs and then the child gets all the attention they need. Another idea from Maag (1994) was focusing intervention on the peer group. Each student must be in a group that is socially competent and can provide reinforcement to those who engage in a new social skill.

Maag (1994) believed that if each counselor could direct the teacher to this way of thinking than behavior would improve in schools.

Critique

Teaching academics and teaching social skills are two totally separate entities that need to be taught as one. A good teacher should be able to teach social skills and academics all together. Though this article was written 15 years ago, knowing what one knows now-social skills is a huge part of life. The common phrase “it is all about who you know” is completely true in this society. Though good grades and academics do matter, it seems that the more important situation here is being able to hold a conversation with someone and networking. Thus colleges are beginning to really emphasize on social skills. Therefore, schools even the elementary ages need to focus on social skills because it is becoming such am importance aspect of this world today. Also, it is coming to light that sometimes the smartest person with the highest GPA can not carry on a conversation and thus this hurts them. They too need to have the social skills to equal with the academic success in order for them to go farther in life. Maag (1994) focused on peer groups in his articles. This is a very good social skill to acquire. People need to be able to get along with people. Teachers and counselors can be very good examples of this because they have to work together in their peer group. Furthermore, collaboration and consultation take good people skills and if one did not learn this in school or in life then they may have a difficult time working together or speaking out in the meetings. Overall, academics are very important but social skills go hand in hand with academics.

References

Maag, J. (1994). Promoting Social Skills Training in Classrooms: Issues for

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